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Its spikes are more slender than the other North American species. Rachis somewhat scabrous, and its internodes 2—3 lines long.

Trisetum glabrum, s. n.—Radice fibrosa; culmo glabro erecto geniculato 8—10 pollicari; vaginis glabris; ligula membranacea elongata fissa; foliis planis glabris 2—3 pollicaribus 1 lin. latis; panicula elongata patente; radiis 2-nis glabris basi nudis compositis filiformibus, spiculis 2-floris pedicellatis; glumis æqualibus lanceolatis acuminatis 3-nerviis glabris flosculos superantibus; valvulis glabris hyalinis ovatis subtruncatis apice 3-dentatis infra mediam aristatis; arista geniculata flosculo duplo longiore.

Texas. Dr. Linsecum.

Glumes longer than the two paleaceous florets, which are vertical, the upper having a long sericeous stipe.

Trisetum interruptum, s. n.—Culmo geniculato pubescente erecto basi ramoso 8—12 pollicari; radiis 3-nis sen solitariis scabris compositis basi ad apicem densifloris; spiculis 1—2 floris sessilibus vel breviter pedicellatis; glumis scabris 7-nerviis acuminatis æqualibus valvulam subæquantibus marginibus et apicibus albo-hyalinis; valvulis glabris acutis paulo infra apicem longe aristatis, inferiore bifida basi parce setulosa.

Middle Texas.

The lower flowering branches are partly included in the sheaths, and are at intervals of from 1—2 inches from near the base of the culm to its summit, forming a vertical succession of little panicles, which are from 1—1½ inches long, densely flowered.

Trisetum canescens, s. n.—Radice fibrosa; culmo erecto (3—4 pedali) parce piloso; vaginis inferioribus canescenti villosis, superioribus glabriusculis; ligulis membranaceis (1—2 lin. lon.); foliis planis paulo pilosis; 4—6 pollicaribus, 3—4 lin. latis; panicula elongata stricta patente 8—10 pollicari; radiis 5—7-nis scabris inæqualibus compositis; spiculis 2-floris pedicellatis; pedicellis scabris; glumis inæqualibus carinatis acutis dorsis scabris, superiore duplo latiore; valvula inferiore glabra paulo infra apicem longe setulosa apice bifida callo dense piloso.

Oregon, Columbia Plains. Nuttall.

Internodes of the panicle 1—2½ inches long; rachis terete and slightly scabrous; branches of the panicle filiform and erect, the longest about 3 inches in length; margins of the glumes white and hyaline; bristles of the palea 4—6 lines long; florets about 3 lines in length.

Hierochloa occidentalis, s. n.—Culmo glabro erecto 1½—2 pedali simpliciter; vaginis glabris internodio brevioribus; ligula membranacea apice fissa; foliis planis glabris 2—3 pollicaribus et circum 2 lin. latis; panicula patente 2—3 pollicari; radiis solitariis compositis glabris basi nudis; pedicellis 1—2-spicatis; glumis ovatis acutis hyalinis 5—7 nerviis lateralibus et apicibus albidis, cæteris ferrugineis flosculos fere æquantibus; flosculis masculis lævibus muticis parce ciliatis; hermaphroditis glabris apice breviter ciliatis.

Columbia woods. Nuttall.

Lower branches of the panicle about 2 inches long, with lower half naked; internodes between the branches 6—15 lines long.

Note No. 2.—On *QUERCUS HETEROPHYLLA*, Mich.

BY S. B. BUCKLEY.

Since the first note was written, I have seen a young tree on the grounds of Joshua Hoopes at West Chester, near Philadelphia, which grew from an acorn obtained from a tree now living at Marshallton a few miles from West Chester. The Marshall tree is a seedling from the original Bartram Oak. The Bartrams

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wishing to continue the species, which was founded on a single tree, caused acorns from it to be planted in different places, from which two living trees are now known; one at the Bartram garden mentioned in a former paper, and the other in the old Marshall garden.

The Hoopes tree is about 15 feet high and 2–3 inches in diameter, and its leaves have a striking resemblance to Michaux's figure of the Bartram Oak. This may be caused in part from a tendency in many young oak trees to have lobed leaves, often quite different from those of mature trees of the same species. This is well known to many observers. Mr. T. Meehan, of Germantown, has specimens similar to *Q. heterophylla*, from Townsend, in New Castle County, Delaware, collected from the young shoots growing around a stump, surrounded by living willow oaks, of which it had every appearance of having been one.

The following is an extract from a letter lately received from Mr. Hoopes:

"There is a Bartram Oak in the garden at Marshallton, with foliage corresponding to the figure in Michaux, yielding acorns, which produce trees having foliage true to the original."

Dr. Darlington lately told me what amounts to the same as that just quoted from Mr. Hoopes. Should these trees maintain their present distinctive characters, and continue to produce trees of the same sort, it will be an example of the formation of a new species from a form of an old one; nor is it by any means improbable that the Bartram Oak may become distinct from its parent, the willow oak. It is believed by some botanists that new species have been formed, and are now being made from varieties of old species; but human life is so short that we cannot perceive the long gradual changes necessary for this creative process. These Bartram Oaks should be carefully preserved and propagated, that future generations may see whether a good species of *Quercus heterophylla* has been thus created.

It is singular that acorns from the original Bartram Oak should yield trees of such different foliage as the one at the old Bartram garden, and that at Marshallton. The oak in the Bartram place shows a tendency to breed back to the original stock of the willow oak, while the one at Marshallton seems to keep most of the characters of its immediate parent, the Bartram Oak. In confirmation of this I have just received the following note from Mr. Meehan in reference to some Bartram Oaks now being raised by Mr. Buist.

"Mr. Buist says his seedlings from the Bartram Oak all approach the willow oak, but none quite like, all having a few lobed leaves. His seed was gathered by himself from the tree in the Bartram garden which I pointed out to you."

T. MEEHAN."

These seedlings as they acquire age will probably be much more like the willow oak than at present, young trees often having foliage different from mature trees, as before stated.

March 4th.

The President, Mr. LEA, in the Chair.

Twenty-eight members present.

The following papers were presented for publication:

Synopsis of the Cirrhitids; On the limits and arrangement of the Scomberoids; Descriptions of new species of Alepidosauridæ; and on a new species of Priacanthus. By Theodore Gill.

On a tropical Isopod found near the shores of Massachusetts, by Wm. Stimpson.

1862.]